

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR PRIORITIZING VOICE CALL REQUESTS DURING DATA COMMUNICATION SESSIONS WITH A MOBILE DEVICE

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ABSTRACT

Methods and apparatus for prioritizing voice call requests during data communication sessions involving a mobile communication device are disclosed. In one illustrative example, an end user invokes a voice call request through a user interface of the mobile device. If this request is made while the mobile device is engaged in a connected data communication service, the mobile device immediately forces the connected data service into a dormant state. In particular, a release order is transmitted to tear down a traffic channel of the connected data service so that the voice call request can be processed. Subsequently, a voice call with the mobile device is established using a new traffic channel. When the voice call is completed, data communications will resume if needed. Advantageously, the mobile device prioritizes voice calls over data communication sessions which may be deemed less time-critical.

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